

THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL,

OF

Politics and General Literature.

VOL. I.]

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1822.

[No. 49]

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

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Politics of Europe.

The Express which arrived from Madras on Sunday, left that place on the 13th instant; but the regular Dawk from thence, which came in yesterday, brought only the Papers of the 11th. We are therefore still unable to communicate any further details of the Intelligence by the GANGES, Captain Chivers, which arrived at that port on the 13th, than has already appeared.

It was stated in the GOVERNMENT GAZETTE EXTRA that the GANGES left England on the 16th of October: the 10th is however the accurate date. His Majesty is said to have landed at Calais, in the early part of September, and it is added that he intended going to Brussels and Hanover. The Provisional Government at home was strengthened by the Duke of York, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and all the Cabinet Ministers and principal Members of His Majesty's Household being made Lords Justices. The dismissal of Sir Robert Wilson from His Majesty's Service is attributed to some interference of his on the occasion of the Queen's Funeral, but as we know nothing of the particulars, we can give no opinion as to its severity or necessity. Sir Robert Baker, the Magistrate, had fallen under displeasure too, for his conduct on that occasion; but he had anticipated those who disapproved of his behaviour, by resigning. The person with whom Sir Robert Wilson is said to have interfered was a Major Oakes, who was with the Cavalry, probably forming the Escort of the Queen's Corpse.

The JOHN BULL, from which we gather these additional particulars, mentions that Trade was improving.—Stocks at 76½, and that "the Ministers remained exactly as they were," which seems highly probable from the events described, as the Manchester Massacre and the Military Executions of those who wished to honor the last remains of the injured Queen of England, are worthy of the same approvers. Sir Thomas Hislop had reach England, and Sir George Barlow had lost his eldest unmarried daughter by death about the end of August. No other European News has yet transpired, with which we are acquainted.

Morning Chronicle, Aug. 7, 1821.—The town of Gravesend was on Thursday last, the scene of much bustle, in consequence of the elopement which took place between an Officer, said to be in the Guards, and the daughter of a General. An attachment had subsisted for some time between the parties; their union, however, was opposed by the family of the young Lady, who determined to prevent it by sending her to the East Indies. She was put on board a vessel lying off Gravesend, in company with her father and brothers, and was to have sailed on the following day. Her lover by some means gained information of her situation, and hastened to the scene of action with a determination of making an effort to recover his fair one. He succeeded in conveying a request to her that she would hold herself in readiness to escape, if a boat with certain marks should approach the ship. About seven in the evening he started in disguise, with 4 dexterous rowers, and as he neared the ship, he perceived with his glass, the Lady walking the deck; he boldly approached, and in an instant the fair damsel, in the presence of her father and brothers, who had not the slightest suspicion that such a *coup de main* was in contemplation, slipped down the side of the vessel, and was carried off. They were quickly pursued to Gravesend, where they were delayed in procuring post horses, and fortune

once more appeared to be against them. The father and brothers accidentally entered the very house where the fugitives were, and insisted that the Lady should be given up. By this time the circumstances of the case were all known in the town, and it was intimated to the Captain, by some of the resident watermen, who are always upon the look out for what they term "a lark;" that when all was ready, he should not be prevented from carrying off the object of his wishes. A chaise and four was soon procured, when a determined scuffle took place; might however overcame right, and again had the friends of the mortification of seeing the Lady fly before their faces. They were quickly followed to London, and traced as far as Charing-cross, where no further clue could be gained to guide pursuit. The Lady is young, and of very interesting appearance. Her lover was well supplied with money.

Times, August 6, 1821.—The Paris Journals of the 2d arrived in the course of yesterday. The GAZETTE DE FRANCE, in quoting from an Augsburg Paper a new edition of the often-repeated circumstances attending the quarrel between the Turkish Government and Baron STROGONOFF, introduces the subject by fairly enough remarking, that "the public curiosity insists on having news of some kind or other from Turkey every day." With regard to the nature of the news at present circulated, and of which some portion may be doubtless traced to these peremptory demands of public curiosity, we shall only say, that there would be more presumption than discretion in drawing from it as yet any certain judgment upon the question of peace or war. Of the accounts transmitted through Germany, and inserted in the MONITEUR, from the Russian frontiers, the majority are certainly of a warlike complexion. A private letter from Nuremberg of the 25th ultimo states in express terms, that a courier arrived the same day from Vienna had brought news to the following effect:—That extraordinary movements had suddenly taken place among the Russian troops on the Pruth, and that it was believed that the Russian Government, indignant at the outrages offered to Baron STROGONOFF, had despatched a messenger with its ultimatum to the Sublime Porte, demanding a signal satisfaction. The letter further asserts the probability that the Divan would not do justice to the claims of the Russian Cabinet, and that war was, therefore, considered inevitable between the two empires. In case of satisfaction being refused, M. DE STROGONOFF had received orders to quit forthwith the territories of the GRAND SEIGNOR. Not the least important passage remains behind:—"A courier sent from St. Petersburg to the Russian head-quarters on the Pruth, had brought intelligence that the Emperor ALEXANDER was on the point of quitting his capital for the purpose of reviewing his army." But his Imperial Majesty seldom remains long in the same place. The vast extent of his dominions has made loco-motion a sort of duty; and a duty so often exercised has at length become a habit and indulgence to his active mind. A journey of some hundreds of miles, therefore, to review his army, though still undoubtedly a circumstance worth attention, affords a less certain proof of the approach of actual service in the case of ALEXANDER than of any cotemporary monarch. For the rest, the general tenour of the above communication will be found to correspond with that of an article from Vienna, in THE TIMES of Saturday, grounded on the alleged authority of despatches direct from St. Petersburg, and likewise with intelligence from Odessa of the 7th ultimo. On the latter authority it is said that a declaration of war was expected hourly; that the

Russian embassy was preparing to withdraw to Odessa; that (besides some individuals mentioned by name) all the Russian Merchants and dependents were setting out, or had already gone; and that a terrible crisis was expected. It is subjoined as a qualification of the general mischief, that the English and French were likely to be respected; except the Turkish Government should itself be overthrown. The Greeks were pushing their hostilities against the Turks by water. Accounts had been transmitted from Constantinople of the 3d of July to Odessa, stating that nine more Turkish vessels had been taken; but, on the other hand, that some Algerine cruisers had appeared on the coasts of the Morea.

Military Force of Turkey.—A statement of the amount and condition of several branches of the military force of Turkey is contained in one of the German papers. The disparity between the effective strength of the Janissaries, and their strength on paper, may be gathered from the following account:—

"The Janissaries amount to the number of 240,000, according to the nominal lists, but these are in a great part composed of peaceful citizens, merchants, and artisans, who have inscribed their names in the corps in order to share its privileges. The Janissaries in pay do not amount to more than 40,000, of whom 20,000 are in the capital. There are others who receive rations, but who do not receive pay. All of them are obliged to march when the Grand Signor repairs to the Army in person. The cavalry may amount to 134,000 men, but it is a cavalry like that of the middle ages, or like the *pospolite* of Poland. The Sophis are a good light cavalry force, but little formidable in regular warfare. The Turkish artillery, although improved by French Officers (who have constructed several Turkish fortresses), still presents many defects both in the material and in the personnel. Instead of 20,000, there are only 12,000 men. The cannons are badly equipped."

No notice appears to be taken of the Nizim Dzgerid, or force subjected to European discipline; that measure not having been attended with success, and the constitution and character of the Turkish troops being such, as to render any attempts at the introduction of steady discipline among them almost hopeless under their present government.

Morning Chronicle, August 6, 1821.—Enough has been said about the Constitution of SPECIAL JURIES to satisfy all mankind that the time is ripe for something to be done, to place them in an unexceptionable state; for if there is one thing, which more than any other, ought to be *omni exceptione major*, it is a JURY. On *Grand* and *Petit Juries*, however, some remarks still remain to be made, especially on considering the frequent severity of the laws in criminal cases.

Such is often the length of time, during which a prisoner must lie in confinement previous to trial, that *Grand Juries* should be particularly cautious how they expose any person to trial, by finding Bills. They should find no Bill, unless the evidence produced on behalf of the prosecution, if not afterwards answered by that on behalf of the prisoner, be most clearly sufficient to convict; since, however innocent the party may be, the stigma is never to be removed—this is the sentiment of Lord Coke. The Roman laws were particularly tender and cautious in criminal matters, never entering upon any prosecution, till what they called the *corpus delicti* was fully established before a Magistrate—till a Magistrate *quoad sensum intellectum* was convinced of the actual existence of crime, then, and not till then, they looked out for the perpetrator, he was apprehended, tried, amply heard in his defence, and acquitted or condemned; or if the proofs did not amount to a full conviction, the sentence was *non liquet*, which was, in fact, our *ignoramus*.

The greatest attention should be paid to the examination of *ex-parte* evidence, produced in support of the Bills presented to them: some regulations in this *first trial* on criminal process, has been long necessary, the want of which has too probably proved fatal to many innocent persons.*

* To pass over modern instances of imminent peril, we shall refer to the Old Bailey Sessions Papers, July 1750, Jan. 1754, &c. In 1729, a set of the most infamous miscreants that ever disgraced the annals of

The witnesses examined by the Grand Jury, although upon oath, are not subject to any prosecution for perjury, and it frequently happens that testimony has been given before a Grand Jury, of facts that have never occurred: the Grand Jury, in this case, must find the Bill, the party is put upon trial, and though perhaps honourably acquitted, has no remedy against the perjured witnesses.

In consequence of the incompetence of Juries, the Magistrate has more power than the law ever intended him to have, he being, in too many cases, both Judge and Jury, and the last words he delivers, whether in favour of or against the prisoner, are frequently the only ones that make any impression.

The *Grand Jury* always receives a charge from the Judge, but how much more necessary is it for the Judge to instruct the *Petit Jury*, yet this is never done, except in summing up the evidence, when he is supposed to have made up his mind as to the particular offence for which the prisoner stands charged; but his instructions ought to be before the trial comes on, and in general terms,

That every man should be tried by his equals, is certainly a measure founded in wisdom and justice, but then it must suppose those equals competent judges of what is laid before them, but how very far is this, in many cases, from being the fact. On the Welsh Circuit this evil is very great, for there it is not uncommon to have much the greatest part of the *Petit Jury*, entirely ignorant of the language in which the Judge addresses them.

In Ireland, the case is, as we understand, the reverse of what is in practice among us. The *Petit Juries* are chosen from the most respectable men both for property and talents, the *Grand Jury* from men of property also, but of inferior abilities; and the practice is at once wise and just, as it is certainly requires more intellect to determine, when you hear both sides of a question, than when you are confined to one: in the latter case, you are only to judge of the sufficiency of evidence to put the man on his trial, but in the former you are to consider also what the prisoner has to say in his defence, and then to determine how far the defence is to operate against the accusation, and what weight is to be given to each side of the question; a matter that often requires the greatest discernment.

Nothing human is perfect, but not to cure imperfections so clearly within our reach, and so momentous in their consequence, is wholly inexcusable. Where life, property, and reputation are at stake, no care can be deemed too great, no jealousy unjust or ungenerous. But much as the topics here touched upon deserve consideration, the public have reason to be proud of their *Grand* and *Petit Juries* when they view them in comparison with their *Special Juries*, as connected with the liberty of the press.

Anecdote of Quin.—Mr. Quin, the Comedian, in whose dramatic corps the celebrated Mrs. BELLAMY was then performing, once, after the rehearsal, desired to speak with her in his dressing room. As he had always carefully avoided seeing her alone, she was not a little surprised at so unexpected an invitation. Her apprehensions made her fear that she, by some means or other, had offended the worthy man; but her fears were not of long duration; for as soon as she entered his room, he took her by the hand, and with a smile of benignity, thus addressed her, "My dear girl, you are vastly followed, I hear.—Do not let the love of finery, or any other inducement, prevail on you to commit an indiscretion. Men in general are rascals. You are young and engaging, and therefore ought to be doubly cautious. If you want any thing in my power, which money can purchase, come to me, and say, 'JAMES QUIN, give me such a thing,' and my purse shall always be at your service." "The tear of gratitude," says Mrs. B. in her memoirs, "stood in my eye at this noble instance of generosity, and his own glistened with that of humanity and self approbation."

any country, were detected; "who," it is said, "received 1720*l.* as rewards for persons taken and convicted on their and such like evidence at the Old Bailey only, and that there and at other places, they had ensnared and hanged in twenty years, one hundred persons, most of whom were innocent of the crimes for which they suffered."

Ship Building in Bengal.

BY THE LATE ANTHONY LAMBERT, Esq. MERCHANT OF THE PORT OF CALCUTTA.

Bengal was formerly under the necessity of prosecuting her maritime trade on ships built in foreign ports. Before these provinces fell under the dominion of Great Britain, the Natives never attempted marine expeditions; and prior to the year 1780, we have not heard of any effort made by Europeans to construct ships in Bengal, for the purposes of commerce. Two small snags, the *Minerva* and *Amazon*, were indeed built at Calcutta, for the Company, previous to this period. But it does not appear that this example operated as an incentive to others. The country-trade of Bengal was then supplied with shipping from the ports of Surat, Bombay, Damaun, Pegue, and by occasional purchases of foreign Europe ships; and if any considerable repairs were wanted, the ships were obliged to proceed to those ports to have them effected. The late Colonel Watson, we believe was the first person who ever built a ship of force or burden in the river Hooghly. In the year 1781, he launched the *Nonsuch*, of about 500 tons burden, capable of mounting 32 guns, and constructed both for the purposes of war and commerce.

A very calamitous event gave rise to ship-building in Bengal—the famine produced in the Carnatic by Hyder Ali's invasion, in the year 1780. The extraordinary and pressing demand thereby created for tonnage, for the transportation of grain, and supplies of troops and stores, to our settlements on the coast of Coromandel, raised the price of freight to such an enormous height, as roused the attention of almost every person in the remotest degree connected with commerce, to share in this profitable traffick. Ships not being procurable from other quarters in any proportion to the demand, individuals then began to turn their attention to the construction of ships in Bengal; and this noble and useful art has been ever since pursued with so much vigor, that Bengal, instead of depending on other countries as formerly, for the means of conveying her produce to foreign ports, now supplies not only shipping for her own commerce, but for sale to foreigners, and ship-building is become a very considerable branch of home manufactures.

The materials of which our ships are now constructed, consist of teak timber and planks, imported from Pegue, and saul and sissoo timber from Behar, Oude, and the inexhaustible forests that skirt the hills, which form the northern boundaries of Bengal and Behar. The ribs, knees, and breast-hooks, or what is usually denominated the frame of the ship, are composed, generally, of sissoo timber; the beams and inside plank, of saul; and the bottoms, sides, decks, keel, sternposts, &c. of teak. The excellence of teak for the purpose of ship-building, and its durability, are too well known to require any description; although it must be observed, that the Pegue teak is not reckoned equal to what grows on the Malabar coast, and near Surat. Of sissoo and saul timber we can truly say, from the information of well-informed professional men, that the former is admirably adapted to ship building, from its size, form, and firm texture; and as it produces crooked timbers and knees of every shape and dimension, for vessels of all forms, and of any magnitude, even for a ship of war of the first rate; and that the latter furnishes excellent beams, knees, and inside plank.

With regard to either of these two species of timber, we cannot yet pronounce, with certainty, on the full extent of their durability as materials for ship-building. The experience we have had, however, justifies us in saying, that for this purpose the sissoo will last much longer than any timber to be found in Europe.

The great scarcity of large ship-timber in England will, it is to be hoped, direct the attention of minister to this country. Ships of the largest scantling can be built in Bengal cheaper in proportion than those of smaller dimensions; for the price of large-ship-timber does not rise here in the same ratio as at home; there being no scarcity to give it an artificial value, beyond the comparison of its solid contents to smaller timber.

The forests not yet sufficiently explored, may, perhaps, furnish other kind of timber, besides those already mentioned, which would be useful for the construction of ships; indeed the woods of Chittagong have actually furnished other kinds. These, however, will not supply the docks of Calcutta, which must draw their timber through the navigable rivers, from the northern districts. We have already mentioned the sources of supply. Through the numerous rivers of Purnea, falling into the Ganges, the greatest abundance of saul timber is conveyed from the forests of Morung, after a short land-carriage from the spot where each timber is cut, to the nearest bank of a navigable river. From the boundary of the north-west districts of Behar, and from provinces subject to the Vizier, the finest sissoo, and some saul timbers are brought by a good navigation, from abundant forests not remote from the banks of rivers. No supply, deserving of notice, is obtained from the province of Tirhoot, because most of its rivers are not now navigable. Should

the population of that province be ever restored, it will owe the improvement to some measures adopted to make the rivers navigable, for which purpose, no more seems necessary than to clear the woods, which overgrowing the banks of rivers, render them impracticable. If this be effected, great supplies of timber may be expected from the northern frontiers of Tirhoot. We have not learnt what the woods of Rangoon and Cooch Behar contain. If they could even furnish the most useful timbers, neither the navigation of those districts, nor of the eastern parts of Bengal, will conduct timbers for the supply of Docks at Calcutta. The hilly countries on the west of Bengal proper, afford, indeed, some useful timber; but the falls, and the rapidity of the rivers may prevent the ship-builders of Bengal availing themselves of this source of supply; however, the sources we have mentioned will long afford ample quantities for the construction of ships of every size.

The system adopted by the Spaniards in the administration of their colonies, has in general, been too closely copied: but on one point it is to be wished, that their example, should be followed, the building of ships of war in their colonies.*

It has been frequently pointed out by Major Rennel, and others, that it would be advantageous to build ships of war in India; at least, such as are necessary for the defence and protection of our trade and possessions here. They would last in these seas more than four times as long as ships built in Europe; all the expence of the outward and homeward voyage would be saved; and when not wanted for actual service, they could be laid up in ordinary, either here, or at Bombay, at an inconceivable expence beyond the pay of their principal officers.

The only objection that we have generally heard urged against the measure of building men of war in India, is the expence. This objection may certainly, in some degree, apply to Bombay, with respect to the first cost of a ship; for, whilst the present duty of 25 per cent. continues to be there levied on all the materials used in ship-building, we believe that ships cannot be built so cheaply at that port as in Europe, nor so reasonably, by at least the amount of the duty there levied, as they are now built in Bengal.†

As no ships of war have ever been built in Bengal, we cannot exactly, or minutely, say, what would be their cost; but by taking the prices paid for men of war built in private dock-yards in England, and comparing these rates with the expence of building ships of the same size in Bengal, adding thereto the difference between the cost of a merchant ship, and a ship of war, an estimate, not very inaccurate, may easily be formed. By a contract made between Government and Mr. Parry of Blackwall, in the year 1782, for a 44 gun ship, it appears, that he received at the rate of 121. 17s. 6d. per ton, the payments being made in advance, as the work proceeded towards completion, the tonnage of the ship not to exceed 897 tons carpenter's measurement. The ship *Gannet*, burden 816 tons carpenter's measurement, was built at Calcutta, by Mr. Gillet, and delivered over to the purchaser, sheathed and coppered, with masts, yards, sails, running and standing rigging, anchors, cables, boats, &c. complete for sea, excepting gunner's stores, and chandlery, for the sum of 1,25,000 sicca rupees, or 14,531. 6s. 8d. This ship was estimated to carry 16,000 bags of rice, equal in weight to 1,230 tons; which according to the usual construction of ships of war, is full a third, probably near one half, more real burden, than a 44 gun ship.

We have obtained an accurate account of the actual cost of this ship to the builder amounting to sicca rupees, 1,15,538. From this sum must be deducted those articles which were not furnished to the 44 gun ship, viz. sheathing, coppering, masts, yards, caps and tops, rigging, sails, anchors and cables, boats, &c. amounting, with workmanship, to 38,223 sicca rupees. This reduces the actual cost of this ship, if delivered over in the state of the 44 gun ship, to 77,305 sicca rupees; and, allowing the same rate of profit on this, which the builder drew on sicca rupees 115,538, he would have received sicca rupees 83,635. 12. 1; which, divided by the carpenter's tonnage, gives 102.9.0 sicca rupees, or 111. 9s. 10½d. per ton; being 16s. 7d. ½ per ton less than the cost of the 44 gun

* Of this there is a proof in the British Navy, from the instance of the Gibraltar of 80 guns.

† The ship *HINDOOSTAN* was built in Calcutta, coppered and fitted for sea, with every thing except gunner's stores, for Sa. Rs. 118,000. and was sold at Bombay for Sa. Rs. 1,60,000. The ship *SEKS*, coppered, with masts, yards, and boats, only cost in Calcutta Sa. Rs. 55,000. The sum of Sa. Rs. 100,000. was offered for her at Bombay, and refused.

‡ It appears by the appendix to the proceedings of the Court of Directors relative to shipping, from March 1792, to March 1794, that the price to the builder for the hull only of an Indiaman of 800 tons burden, without sheathing or copper, was 121. 10s. per ton, or 10,000l. in 1792, and 141. per ton, or 11,200l. in 1793; and, that the whole cost and outfit in the former period, was 21,333l. 1s. 10d. and in the latter, 23,402l. 1s. 10d. It is evident from this, that the English East Indiamen now cost more by 11. 2s. 6d. per ton, than men of war of their burden did in 1782.

ship. Professional men will be able to judge, what would be the difference of expence between building such a merchant ship as the *GABRIEL*, and a 44 gun ship, by comparing the principal dimensions, which are as follows:

Forty-four gun Ship, <i>Gabriel</i> .		Ft.	In.
Length from the fore part of the stern to the after part of the stern post, at the height of the wing transom,	140	134	10
Length of keel		119	6
Length of keel for tonnage	115 2½	105	10
Breadth of the beam	38 3	38	
* Depth of the hold, clear of beam and keelson ..	16 10	18	
Height between decks	6 8	6	8
Height of poop		6	6

Our information leads us to believe, that such a ship as the 44-gun ship is described to be, could have been built full as cheap in Calcutta in the year 1794, and in the same space of time (twenty-four months) as in the first private dock-yards in England in 1782, assuredly much cheaper than in the royal dock-yards; it appearing from the Appendix to the eleventh report of the Commissioners appointed to enquire into the state of the forests and crown lands, that ships of war built in the King's yards, cost infinitely more than those built by contract in private yards. The prices paid for 74 gun ships, built in private yards during the year 1782, was from 17l. 10s. to 18l. 15s. per ton; a price which our information warrants us to say, is much higher than what they could now be built for at Calcutta; and, we understand, that the general rates of ship building have increased in England since that period, near 30s. to 40s. per ton †.

Without, then, taking into consideration the great advantage that would arise from the superior durability of Indian ships over those built in Europe, we think it proved, that even the first cost of moderate-sized ships of war built here, could not exceed the Europe rates of 1782; and from the low price of large crooked timber in this country, compared with what it cost in Europe, there is little doubt but larger ships could be built considerably cheaper. But, when it is considered that a Europe-built ship goes to decay in this country in five, or six years, ‡ and that ships are now navigating these seas, in perfect order and condition which were built at Bombay more than 56 years ago; (and we have intimated one built at Calcutta, above 14 years since, now in like perfect and sound state) the ultimate expence of building ships of war in India to remain in the Indian seas, sinks below all proportion, when compared to that of sending ships built in Europe to India for that purpose.

The decrease of English oak has long been a subject of very serious consideration, and many expedients have been suggested to guard the nation against the alarming consequences that would attend a scarcity of this essential article, on which the commerce and strength of Great Britain so materially depends. By an act of the 12th of George 3d. entitled "An Act for the more effectually securing a quantity of oak timber for the use of the Royal Navy," the Company were absolutely prohibited from building any more ships, until their tonnage was reduced to 45,000 tons. Other timbers of various kinds have been proposed as substitutes for oak, in ship-building, the pine, chestnut, larch, beach elm, &c. But we have never heard the teak, the sissoo, or the saul mentioned. The English reader may therefore draw consolatory reflections from the knowledge, that the forests of India offer inexhaustible sources for the supply of the finest and most durable species of ship-timber in the world; that, whenever policy or necessity shall dictate the measure, the navy of England may be recruited with ships of the line, built in Calcutta by British shipbuilders, on British capitals, at a cheaper rate than they can now be constructed in any port in Great Britain; and that these ships, if necessary, could be delivered at Spithead, on equally moderate terms; for, if allowed to carry home a cargo on account of the Company, or of individuals, the freight would much more than pay the expence of the voyage.

* The *Gabriel* had only two decks, and a poop and fore-castle, with beams and water-ways laid for the orlop deck, but not planked; being intended, we believe, for the cotton trade, the stowage of which is considerably increased by not laying the lower deck.

† In Number VI. to the Appendix of the above-mentioned report of the commissioners of the land revenue, dated February 1792, we find from the answers to question No. 5, that the price of East-India ships had increased from 12l. per ton, the price in 1771, to 13l. 10s. and 14l. 14s. and were then about 13l.; that the price in 1771, for 74 gun ships built in private yards, was 17l. 6s.; that it had increased to 17l. 17s. 6d. and for frigates in 1771, it was 11l. 11s. since increased to 11l. 12s.

‡ In Europe, men of war, if built in the King's yards, are supposed to last from twelve to sixteen years—built in private yards, from nine to fourteen years. At the end of seven or eight years they require a thorough repair.

It has been a practice with the French to employ their ships of war during peace as merchantmen, and it might be worth the serious consideration of government, how far such a measure might be successfully introduced into the India trade, particularly to China, where ships equal in size to 64-gun ships are now employed. These ships might be either the property of government, or of the Company; if they belonged to government, the Company might freight them, in time of peace; if they were the property of the Company, they might be hired by government during the war. A slight alteration in the construction of those ships would fit them both for the purposes of war and commerce. The idea of altering the construction of large ships employed by the Company in the China trade, so as to render them capable of being employed on an emergency, as ships of war, has frequently been suggested by able and well-informed professional men. It would add to the maritime strength of the nation a force of at least forty ships of war of the third and fourth rates. The present average price of the best merchant-ships, above 400 tons burden, built in Calcutta, sheathed with teak, coppered, and furnished with masts, yards, and boats, may be stated at about 12l. to 16l. per ton, carpenter's measurement; fitted for sea, they would cost from 16l. to 20l. varying in these limits agreeably to their construction, and from the fluctuating prices of the Europe articles that enter into their composition, such as lead, iron, copper, cordage, sail-cloth, &c.

If this port was regularly and better supplied with metals, and naval stores, from England, these prices would be considerably reduced. At present, the shipping of India is indebted for, at least, nine-tenths of their consumption of these articles to foreign and clandestine ships, the Company prohibiting individuals from trading in them on the chartered ships.

It has been urged, that, if encouragement were given to ships built in India, it would be injurious to the commercial interest of Great Britain. This idea, we conceive, must have been hastily adopted on a very partial view of the question, from considering them as rivals to home-built ships, and could not fairly apply to Bengal, but as a foreign dominion. By the Register Act of the 24th of George III. they are undoubtedly entitled to all the rights and privileges of British bottoms, when registered and navigated according to law. This has lately been decided in England, and a British register granted in the port of London to a ship built in Bengal. But even considered as alien ships, they never could enter into competition with home bottoms in any trade where these are employed; and Great Britain supplies no part of the shipping at present employed in the country trade of India.

The Company's exclusive privileges have ever prevented the India trade from being supplied with British home-built ships; and, except two or three English ships bought of foreigners, the shipping of our Indian settlements, amounting to 100,000 tons, is composed of foreign and Indian bottoms. Of course India never could be considered as a market for the sale of home-built ships; and in the clandestine, or foreign trade between our Indian settlements and Europe or America, for one British ship so employed, there are, at least, ten foreign and Indian ships. Indeed, our observation would justify us in stating a much greater disproportion. Indian shipping can only be increased by allowing it to transport the produce of India to Great Britain; and, whether this produce should be allowed to promote the increase of Indian shipping, or to be forced into foreign ports on clandestine and foreign ships, will hardly admit of a question. But, admitting the possibility of a competition with our home-manufactured ships, it would only be a competition promoting the sale of other home products, and manufactures, and could not, in the remotest degree, affect the interests of any other class of individuals than the ship-builders. Almost every article of ship-building, except the timber, would be procured from England, namely, iron and iron-work, anchors, cordage, sail-cloth, lead, copper, nails, bolts, ship-chandlery, carvers'-work, guns, gunner'-stores, pump-gear, &c. which here constitute full two-fifths of the cost of a ship when fitted for sea. It does not, therefore, appear good policy, (admitting even the possibility of the competition apprehended), to discourage every product and manufacture that enters into the composition of a ship, merely to guard the constructor, who puts together the materials, from a speculative and doubtful rivalship; which, if it should arise, would not be inconsistent with general benefit.

It follows, from our view of the question, that, to encourage ship-building here, by removing the impediments which obstruct the trade between Great Britain and India, or by allowing individuals to send the produce of India to Great Britain, in ships built in India, would perhaps be more beneficial to Great Britain than to Bengal, in an increased consumption for many of her most valuable manufactures. The direct advantages which Bengal has derived from the introduction of ship-building, may be estimated from a consideration only of the builder's profits, and the workman's wages. These amount to about two-fifths of the whole value of the ship and outfit; which, upon 51,04,000 S. Rs. (the estimated value of ships built here, since 1791) is 20,41,600 S. Rs.

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—581—

Indian News.

By Letters from Madras, Pondicherry, and other parts, intelligence has been received of disturbances of a very serious nature having taken place at the Danish Settlement of Tranquebar. According to our information it originated in some imprudent and impolitic measures adopted by some servants under the Danish Government at that Settlement, who had granted to Tirumuddy Setty, an opulent Native of low caste, all the privileges which belong exclusively to the higher caste and should therefore according to the established custom of the country and fixed opinion or prejudice of the Natives be exercised only by those who are of what is commonly called the *Right-hand* caste.

We are sorry to learn that this popular tumult even went so far that several godowns filled with valuable goods were set on fire by the Natives, and property destroyed to a considerable amount. In consequence of these violent proceedings, the Government were at last compelled to lessen their dignity so far as to disgrace the low caste man that had been so unwisely elevated by recalling the privileges granted to him. But not satisfied with this point being conceded to them, the Natives boldly and peremptorily demanded the dismissal of Mr. Kofoed and Mr. Lorentz, two Officers employed under the Danish Government at that place, who are complained against as having given rise to the disturbance, by granting the unusual privileges already alluded to, to Tirumuddy Setty. Altho' the letters do not explicitly state, it is to be inferred that the object of the Natives in committing these outrages was merely to intimidate the Government into a revocation of those honors granted to Tirumuddy, which were so inconsistent with their idiosyncrasy of the proper gradations of rank and due subordination among men of inferior origin.

We are happy to be able to add that according to the latest accounts, tranquillity had been again restored, chiefly owing to the prudent and efficacious measures adopted by Mr. Ratlig, Judge and Magistrate at that place; and the complete confidence the Native population have in him, give reason to hope that the peace of the Settlement will not be again disturbed. It is added that the European inhabitants suffered considerable inconvenience during these disturbances from their Native Servants having completely deserted them for several days.

Lady Hastings.—We have letters from the Governor General's Camp of the 21st instant, and are happy to state that Lady Hastings had quite recovered from her recent indisposition. The party had failed in their attempts to see the Leopards after which they had gone, in consequence of the great thickness of the Jungle. They had however killed nine Hogs that morning and seen a number of Florikias. The Governor General may be expected in town to-day or to-morrow. Part of his Lordship's suite has already arrived. They had had a North-wester and heavy rain in Camp.

Cape of Good Hope.—We have seen an extract of a letter, dated Cape Town, Cape of Good Hope, 14th November 1821, which gives the following unpleasant intelligence. "There have been two vessels lost here, since our arrival; the *WATERLOO* and *NEPTUNE*, both English.—The *HEBE*, sailed for London this forenoon."

Change in the weather.—There has been an unexpected and pleasing change in the weather with the last three days. From cloudy and thick, the atmosphere has become clear and serene, and the air from being hot and damp has become cold, dry, and delightful. We owe this favorable change to several heavy falls of rain to the Northward. Our letters tell us much rain had fallen in the Kishnagur district; and the same thing must have happened in the Upper Provinces, as late accounts from Cawnpore mention that the River had risen four feet in one day; a rise greater than had happened at this season in the memory of man.—*John Bull.*

HIGH WATER AT CALCUTTA THIS DAY. H. M.

Morning	5. 37
Evening	6. 2

Miss Donovan's Last Epistle.

Sir, To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

I am much indebted to your Correspondent AMATOR for his offer to accompany me either as "Principal or Accessary," on a Marriage trip to Serampore—I don't know whether to be most amused at his furious declaration of Love, to a young Lady he possibly has never seen, or the indifference with which he offers, either to take her himself, or assist in giving her away to another! The air of the Danish Settlement must certainly agree with him.

AMATOR seems completely to have mistaken the object of my Letter; my anxiety was to be relieved from the persecuting addresses of superannuated Qui-Hi's and Religious Colonels, and not to obtain a Husband:—God knows they are but useless creatures at best, and a man to whom it is a matter of indifference whether he marry a Lady himself, or assist in marrying her to another, is a great deal too accommodating for me.

When I do marry, Mr. Editor, I hope my Husband will be a rational independent man—I am not a young Lady fond of rich romances, and love-sick sonnets, nor do I believe

"That all the end of ardent wooing,

"Is constant billing, constant cooing."

Such dove-like recreations may suit the vitiated taste of a sentimental School-girl, but for the honor of our sex, I hope they will never be patronized by sensible young women of two and twenty. In the matrimony of real life, alas! the only *bill ing* is often from hungry and importunate tradesmen, and as for cooing, I have heard that all wives don't escape a *cour de bâton*

"The law declares, thick as a Christian's thumb,

"Sticks may be used, to make a wife succumb." *Old Story.*

If I am fortunate enough to have an offer of Marriage from a man who possesses sufficient wealth to support me creditably in the sphere of life I have been accustomed to move in, sufficient love for my person to prefer me to all other women, and if he should make any aberration from the paths of virtue, enough of prudence to keep me in ignorance of his infidelity, I would also have him uphold his King in the just exercise of his prerogative, if it be necessary, at the hazard of his life; but at the same time he must not forget that his Sovereign "had it, and holds it—from the people."—I would wish him to venerate and admire that glorious edifice, the Constitution of his country; but if he perceive any architectural blemishes, any late disfiguring additions to it, let him in conjunction with others, temperately but perseveringly endeavour to remove them; I would have him also respect his Majesty's Ministers—if they deserve it, and in times of difficulty and danger, (may they never arrive) when the laws are violated and the rights of the people trampled upon, then, I hope he would bear in mind that Hampden and Sidney were his countrymen.—And if his soul be aspiring—if he should desire to "climb those heights, where ambition lies rocking on the lap of danger" I would not have him sacrifice one virtuous independent feeling, or lose one particle of the dignity of man, or of his own respect, to reach the desired goal; and if it could only be arrived at by these means I would rather a thousand times share tranquil obscurity with him—I repeat, were I to meet such a man, even tho' he had not "bright black eyes, and very white teeth," nay tho' his visage were begrimed and dark as the swarthy Moor's and his form as crooked as the policy of some people that shall be nameless—I would not only marry him, but could love him, as fondly as ever Desdemona loved Othello.—If there be any who think that I have expressed myself too warmly of what I should wish my *cara sposa's* public conduct to be, let them remember that I belong to a proscribed and neglected country, and that if in former times, my countrymen had been what I desire my destined Husband shall be, it is probable that I should not now be an exile from my friends and native land.

Adieu, Mr. Editor: I thank you for inserting my former Letter, and I hope you will give a place to this, my last Epistle, for the sake of AMATOR, and to prevent any evil consequences arising from his passionate adoration of

Chowringhee, Feb. 23, 1822.

ANNA MARIA DONOVAN.

New Government Loan.*To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.*

SIR,

ANGLICANUS and AN ENGLISHMAN ought to carry on their discussions in good humour, and I hope therefore that I may unoffendingly endeavour to shew that he has taken an erroneous view of the Financial arrangements announced for execution. His consideration for the Public Creditor has made him unjust to the Public Debtor. The weight of the former is concentrated and individualized, that of the latter is expanded and generalized, since it happens that they seldom obtain their proper influence, and I think there is in the strictures which I am now criticising that preponderance which so easily and almost imperceptibly biasses the opinion.

He says "It is sufficiently clear that a considerable part of the Public Creditors, those residing in Europe and at different Stations to the Eastward and elsewhere, have hitherto been and still are in some measure, completely at the mercy of Government, and can be forced to accept any terms that it may be thought proper to offer them. This is effected by the suddenness and secrecy of the operation, which does not give sufficient time for instructions being sent to the Agents by the parties concerned." Now in all transactions of borrowing and lending, whether Public or Private, the Creditor is at the mercy of the Debtor in all matters not avowed or implied in the contract, a condition so well known that few men on quitting the country fail to leave with their Agents or Attornies, instructions and legal powers to act for them. It is a thing especially provided for, and if any man has been so inadvertent as to omit the precaution, he should suffer for his inadvertence, or if he could not trust an Agent he should have remained to transact his own business. It is too much to expect that the convenience of the Private or Public Debtor should be suspended for a reference which might have been avoided.

On principle, then, I think that the measures of Government are perfectly justifiable, and to say that it holds its Creditors at its mercy, and that the suddenness and secrecy of its proceedings are designed to compel stockholders, are invidious and incorrect expressions, it does so no more than any other Debtor. But in point of fact how far is the charge of suddenness and secrecy proveable? To those at home the Court of Directors announced their intention of calling on the local Government to redeem its remittable loans, so long ago, that pamphlets which were written on the measure have reached us, and Newspapers in which the question was discussed—this is not like suddenness and secrecy. And to those in India the aspect of the times has long foretold its approach, eighteen per cent. premium on principal, and twenty-eight on its interest bills were indications which left no room for surprise or secrecy. What was then to be told? The GOVERNMENT GAZETTE might certainly have announced that the Secretaries (*awful names, Mr. Editor*) and Public Functionaries were arranging a plan, but for all practical purposes enough was known, and more until the said plan was formed they had not to disclose. That that there is no public discussion before action is not the fault of the existing Government, but of the Constitution.

ANGLICANUS thinks "that if a considerable number of Capitalists were not in the latter predicament (that is absent from India) the measures now in progress would very soon be checked." He means, I presume, that so large a portion of the Loan would be taken out in bills as must compel Government either to stay its proceedings or bankrupt the Court of Directors. But he has advanced this supposition without reflection. The number of absentee stockholders form but a very small proportion of the aggregate body, and of them nine-tenths have agents on the spot furnished with full powers to act for them. Let us however suppose every man to have been present, and all unanimous in taking out their stock in bills on the Court of Directors, what would have been the consequence? Why that those whom it suited to remit their funds would have been exactly where they now are, and that the remainder would have been compelled to sell their Bills at the heavy discount which would have followed such a glut,

or to send them home and receive the amount less freight, insurance, and other charges, after a lapse of little if any thing under two years.

My endeavour hitherto has been to refute what I conceive to be the mistakes of ANGLICANUS, but I am prepared to go a step further. Suppose the Government had said 'Take your Loan on the terms on which you granted it, either in Bills on the Court of Directors or in Cash,' what would have been the consequence? Undoubtedly that the Public Creditors would have been in a predicament of a similar nature, and not less ruinous than that of the supposed combination. The Transfer Loan on its present terms must not be supposed to have been a compulsory step, it is possible that a Loan might have been necessary, but a simple six per cent. or perhaps less would have soon filled the Treasury to meet all possible demands upon it. What we have obtained better than this is purely gratuitous, and should in candour be attributed to a liberal policy. In conclusion, I do not fear, but hope, that "whenever an invading army of Russians and Persians conjoined shall appear upon our frontier" these measures will produce their due effect on the Financial arrangements that such an event may require.

Friday Evening.

AN ENGLISHMAN.

Study of Hindoostanee.*To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.*

SIR,

The Government of Madras with a view of encouraging the Junior Officers of the Military and Medical Services, to study the Hindoostanee Language, authorized (in General Orders 13th October 1812,) their being furnished with Books from the College of Fort St. George, under certain regulations; and offered to extend this indulgence, occasionally, to Officers of higher rank, on the special recommendation of the Commander in Chief.

At that period of time, a reward of 500 Pagodas was given as an Honorary distinction, to every Subaltern and Assistant Surgeon, whom the Committee of Examination reported qualified by his knowledge of the Hindoostanee Language; and a further reward to the same amount, was offered to such of these Subalterns, as could pass a similar Examination in the Persian Language. The consequence was, that numerous Officers studied the languages, and Books were so much in request that the means of the College were inadequate to supply them. Since, however, the reward has been abolished, only few comparatively study the Hindoostanee, and fewer still the Persian; which is the more extraordinary, if it be considered, that the Court of Directors, when they did away the pecuniary compensation, held out a much greater encouragement, by appointing an Interpreter to each Battalion, on the same Staff Pay as the Adjutant.

Without endeavouring to discover the causes which have led to this result, it will be sufficient for my purpose to offer a few suggestions on this subject, which would, in my opinion, if acted upon, not only incite Officers to cultivate a knowledge of the Languages, but afford them a greater facility of doing so than they at present possess. I would propose,—

1st. That Books, both Hindoostanee and Persian, selected by the College, should be supplied to each Battalion, and kept under the charge of the Interpreter of the Corps; on the Corps moving, the Books to be conveyed at the public expense.

2ndly. That these Books, should (under certain regulations) be available to all the Officers of the Corps desirous of studying the Languages.

3dly. That every vacancy in the office of Interpreter, should be filled by the Officer whom the College might, after examination, report to be the best Oriental Scholar in the Corps.

4thly. That any Officer desirous of passing an Examination, might make application to this effect: if present at Madras, the College to examine him there; if at a distant station, the College might send up the necessary translations to his Commanding

Officer, who could see them done in his own presence, without any extraneous assistance, and return them to the College*.

5thly. That the names of the Officers who have passed shall be registered in the College, for the purpose of filling up the vacancies, when they occur.

6thly. Should there be no Officer in the Corps, qualified for the situation, one should be appointed from another Corps, in the interim.—I am, Sir, your's, &c.

Orissa, February, 1822.

ZUBANDAN.

* I am aware that in this case, the College cannot judge of the Candidate's colloquial abilities; except in so far as they may be inferred from his knowledge of the idiom of the Language.

The Wise Man's Vade Mecum.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

For the benefit of such of the Wise as deign to look into your JOURNAL, I enclose another short extract from "The Wise Man's Vade Mecum," which I hope you will oblige them by inserting, and also—Your very obedient Servant,
Gravily-Hall, January 1822.

DAVID DUMPS

EXTRACT.

Rule 10.—Devote a leisure hour, occasionally, to the study of the Theory and Practice of Cookery.

This rule may appear to some of my readers, to be of less importance than many of the preceding; and perhaps it is so: but they will find the study of Cookery an agreeable amusement; and instances are not wanting to shew, that skill in the art may sometimes prove of inestimable benefit to the possessor.

Major SPICEWELL, I have heard, acquired the friendship of distinguished Officer by giving him a receipt for making a pigeon-pie, which was deemed by experienced palates, equal to any they had ever tasted in India or England. But I have not the pleasure of being acquainted with Major SPICEWELL, and cannot vouch for the truth of this anecdote. I shall therefore confine myself, in commenting on this rule, to a brief notice of my old school-fellow JOHN SAMUEL GUSTYGAB. JOLLY JACK we used to call him once; but that title, I forget on what occasion, was afterwards changed to SLIPPERY SAM.

At school, JACK was little better than a dunce. In Arithmetic, he never got beyond the Rule of Three; his progress in Latin was not more creditable; and as to Greek, it continued to be Greek to him; for he never could succeed in turning a single sentence into bad English. JACK could neither play at fives, football, nor hockey; he could neither wrestle, box, nor swim. JACK in short could do nothing but eat: however frequently he might perform his tasks by proxy, he never failed to officiate in person at table. But he was blessed with invincible good humour; and selfish as he was, though he had few friends, he had no enemies. And although JACK was a far better judge of a *bonne bouche* than a *bon mot*, and was never known to make an attempt at wit himself; yet for the jokes of others, he was always prepared with a hearty laugh, which he kept up admirably; ejaculating during its intermissions, "*good!*" "*capital!*" as emphatically, as if he had really been capable of judging whether a joke was so, or not. But notwithstanding this promising qualification, I believe none of JACK's school-fellows ever suspected that he would render himself conspicuous by his wisdom and learning. However, since he has become so, I can recollect some instances of his early prudence and sagacity. JACK, I remember, was never visible during the perilous operation of robbing the Squire's orchard; nor at the still more hazardous one of scaling the walls of the Parson's garden: but he was invariably present when a division of the spoil took place, and generally, by some means or other, succeeded in obtaining an ample portion of the booty. But notwithstanding this, and a few other traits of incipient wisdom, I own I am somewhat surprised, that his present fame, should be chiefly founded on his knowledge of languages.

SAM, for some years after his arrival in this country, was classed with those, who, not having for a length of time, made an exhibition of wisdom, are naturally supposed not to possess any; i. e. with the proud, the imprudent, the perverse, and the stupid—I mean, with that unfortunate class of beings, who, by the wise, are denominated collectively, "the Tag-rag and Bob-tail" of a corps or station. SAM's egress from this hopeless mass of opacity, was, I am told, like a flash of lightning out of a dark cloud. It was in consequence of having distinguished himself by making an exquisite stew, that he was pronounced, by a superlatively wise man, to be an excellent linguist. SAM GUSTYGAB an excellent linguist! who, in the course of his life, was never heard to express himself correctly in any known language!!—Most certainly, the conclusion drawn by his sapient patron, does not appear, to an ordinary understanding, to be warranted by the premises; and even to this day, some are inclined to dispute the justness of his inference—but what is that to SAM? his fame is established,—by making a stew, he has made his fortune!

My Muse—I sometimes make a rhyme,
To banish thought, and murder time;
And spin a halting verse or two,
When I have nothing else to do—
My Muse full fair would sing, I woe,
Of SAMUEL's metamorphosis;
Who, since his reputation's birth,
Has grown in wisdom and in worth;
His former nature quite put off:
But DOLEFUL says I've said enough;
He says 'twill not a doubt admit,
That "brevity's the soul of wit;"
Else might I several pages cram
With praises, due to SLIPPERY SAM;
Or give, at least some dozen lines
Of DRASTIC's wisdom, who opines
That wisest men are always wealthiest,
And consequently, also healthiest,
As best-fed bogs are always fattest!
But—"verbum sapienti sat est."

Home.

"Home still is Home" tho' Fortune smile or frown,—
(Shared with domestic love e'en sweet is sorrow,) There the lone Exile's fondest sighs are thrown,
His look of grief—his bright hope of the morrow;
It is the spell that draws the sweetest tear
From beauty's eye—that dims the manliest brow,
The charm of every joy the heart holds dear—
The pride and solace of the child of woe;
And cold that wight whose bosom doth not dwell,
On that sad thrilling hour when rose the last farewell!
'Tis long since I have seen thee—hallowed land!
Hallowed by many a dream of days gone by—
Yet all thy local graces mildly grand,
Swell the fond breast and charm the tearful eye.
Oh! it is sweet in visions bright to stray
With those we love o'er mountain, mead, and dale,
By streams whose glad waves in the sunbeam play
And throw their music on the balmy gale.
Oh! who that sojourns sad, on Ind's drear soil
But hopes e'en thus life's lingering eve to 'guile?
Vain Hopes! Vain Dreams! 'mid every earthly ill
The soul can darken, or the heart oppress,
Oh! why the withering pulse of feeling thrill
With scenes of home, and love, and loveliness?
Meteors that cheat the wanderer on his way!
Vain glittering beams that mock the mourner's gloom!
Queen of the clime! pale sickness here shall sway,
While weary sorrow leans upon the tomb,
And cries, while turning to her native vale,
Spirits of home and love! farewell—farewell!

Bandah, Feb. 12, 1822.

D. L. R.

Poetic Extract.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

MAISTER EDITOR,

I think they ca' ye,—as you seem to be unco' fond o' potten in screeds o' poetry into that long windet Paper o' yours, I have just been thinkin' wi' mysel to send you a leaf out o' my lamented brether Jock's buik o' havers. Jock, puir chield! was ay a wee daft; tho' whiles he did na want rummugum-tion; but he never wad tak his drap like an honest man, and was ay a saugh-soughin be himsel' till the Corporal Forbes ae day nabbit him; and Dr. Nister, our Surgeon, sent him to the ither world wi' a *secundum artem* folk ca' it. Ere he deed, hoosom-dever, he was promoted to the rank of Sairgeant afore me, his aulder brether; and though I sav't that sidna say't, there are mony that insecunuate that our Captain overlooked my superior abeelities frae no gude will, as you may weel suppose. But feent a hair care I; and as I was tellin' you, having taen a leaf out o' daft Jock's buik, gin ye like it, I may may-be send you noos and than's a betty, mon! Corporal Thomson also says, that ye may be wantin' to hear something about his birth, parentage, and sib, which I shall in my neist do my best to satisfy ye; and wissen you and mysel safe in the "Land of brose and brochan."

I remain, your Servant to command.

ROBERT GUDEFALLOW.

N. B.—I sall direct this to Maister Bakenham, which I foresta' is the ither name ye gang by.

N. B.—I am meikle sorry I canna seal this wi' our cot o' airms, as the Jeweller is southerin' on the head o't.

Extract frae Maister John Godefallow's wractins, by your Servant to command, Robert Godefallow.

DEATH O' SERAGE DOULAH.

1.

'Tis Meeran, wretch from hell-hounds sprung,
Like base jelad or murderer come,
And stands before his sovereign lord
With arm prepared and naked sword:
Ha! he's come like the fowl of the desert, the vulture,
To prey on the stag that's been speared by the hunter;
But fear, for my arm tho' now wounded and feeble,
Fear the vengeance that's swift as the flight of the eagle.

2.

Or comest thou 'midst dark despair,
Like lightening gleam from angel fair?
Or a in Ram'zan's parching hour,
When bursts the enlivening western shower,
Thy monarch to succour, the flying to rally,
And rear up on high the green standard of Ally,
That the blest boon of peace on thy head be awarded
And thy fame by the minstrels of Iran recorded?

3.

Then let me place thee by my side,
And bind this crescent on thy head,
Which ne'er knew stain like this before
And none save Subahs ever wore;
And take this my turban which while sabres were flashing
When loud swelled the war-whoop and bright gleamed the
faulchion,
When treachery triumphed, 'twas scorned thy Father,
And the life of Bengal blushed on Gunga's pale water.

4.

Umeer-ul-Umra shalt thou be,
And Rajahs proud shall crouch to thee;
Ten thousand horse I'll make thy grade,
While Dehli's honors crown thy head;
And when Ouria's forrests have owned thy dread sway
Our army shall glitter in battle array;
Nor shall ought of the foemen have quitted our shore
Till the stain in our banner be bleached in their gore.

5.

When Bengal's monarch ceased to speak
The blood to Meeran's lips was flowing,
And though a smile played on his cheek
Revenge is in his bosom glowing:
Such calm is felt when the lightning red
Foretells the thunders awful rolling.

6.

I scorn thy blazoned honors vain,
Last of thy race, ill-fated name!
Will threats or bribes avert the blow?
No! for this hour thy blood shall flow.
And I fear not thy arm, once strong but now feeble,
And I know not the vengeance that's swift as the eagle;
But, an hour, and thy corpse shall be reeking and silent,
And my tulwar shall glut on the blood of the tyrant.

7.

Ha! wilt thou to the Prophet plead;
Tell him the ghosts thy power hath made?
Serafe Doulah, speed thy prayer
Death's arm is raised, his sabre's bare;
The souls of Feringhees thy coming all hail,
From Calcutta's dark dungeon, grim, haggard, and pale:
See! they shout for revenge, while they chide my delay
And beckon the faith-breaking monarch away.

8.

Methinks upon yon cloud is horre
An injured female's famished form,
Alive yet sealed within the tomb
Was Zeher's ruthless cruel doom;
But peace to thy soul, blue-eyed maiden of Iran;
For revenge shalt thou drink from the sabre of Meeran:
Speed! speed! for methinks that she chides my delay
And beckons thee steel-hearted monarch away.

9.

Slave of the Haram, Meeran, cease!
Nor think to scare with tales of horror;
Ne'er be it said I begged for grace
When lowly I am laid to-morrow.
Then, Meeran, haste my blood to shed;
Speed for thy Father's banners waving,
And Moslem's noon is lowering red
Upon my grandsire's star that's warning.
But woe! to Albion's Chieftain woe!
Who stooped to strike the fallen foe
When treason bent her deadly bow
O'er Bengal's fated monarchy.

10.

And woe to Jaffer's cursed line;
For tho' the musnad's seat be thine,
And tho' the taz surrounds thy head,
Thy blossoming brow shall early fade.
The stranger that helped thee shall eye thee with scorn,
And childless unpitied thy bloom shall be torn,
When Berar shall with Dehli the orange display
And thy Army be led by a corpse to the fray.

11.

Then Meeran raise thy murd'rous hand;
Speed, for the bolt of heaven is flying;
Shake high aloft thy streaming brand;
Serafe Doulah dreads not dying.
But clouds shall hover o'er my shrine
While regicide to Heaven is crying,
Why does yon Arab's dark eye flash?
Why to their arms are the warriors starting?
Heard they the sabres shrilling crash
As when the victim's life blood's parting?
Or on the western breezes blown
Heard they the last convulsive groan;
As if a sinner's soul had flown
To Moslem's Paradise?

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

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Trespassing Cattle.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

I have to thank you for inserting my Letter on the subject of Trespassing Cattle,—and should have replied to the answer which it produced from "AN OLD INDIGO MANUFACTURER," had not your Correspondent "A MORUSSULITE" taken that easy task off my hands, and given the Old Gentleman a quietus, which seems to have silenced him at once.

Supposing, with your Correspondent "A PLANTER," that this Old Indigo Manufacturer, "is one of those favored few, now resting from, and enjoying the sweets of his labors," I must, from the tenor of *TIME'S* Letter, in your JOURNAL of the 29th ultimo, also suppose, that *TIME'S* Factory is conveniently situated, contiguous to a Thannah, and that it is therefore no great trouble, or expense to him, to send in all Trespassing Cattle, "to the nearest Thannah." But this happens not to be the case with a great proportion of Planters. I, for instance, am 10 miles from a Thannah, and some of my cultivation nearer 15 miles,—so that the trouble and expense to me would be great. I should require a regular establishment, to do nothing but keep going constantly to the Thannah, for the practice of Trespassing on our Indigo Fields is a daily one and a growing evil.

I perfectly agree with *TIME* in the propriety of not appealing to the Civil Court upon slight grounds; I would, on the contrary, advise every one to have as little to do with them as possible;—and in most cases, put up with the first loss as the least. It was with this view, that I proposed the Planters themselves should be empowered to empower Trespassing Cattle, under such restrictions, however, as Government might think fit to enact, to prevent the possibility of the Planter's using this power to his pecuniary advantage, or on false pretences.

As to what *TIME* says about conciliating your Ryotts, my answer is, give them strict Justice in all your dealings with them, and any thing beyond this is a farce.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

February 12, 1822

AN INDIGO PLANTER.

On the Unicorn.

From a Correspondent of the Madras Gazette, at Chingleput.

"It is not of consequence, that because Dioscorides hath made no mention of Unicorns, there is therefore no such thing in Nature."

Brown's Vulgar Errors.

Will the fierce Unicorn thy Voice obey,
Stand at the Crib, and feed upon the Hay?

Sandys.

The communication from Major Lutter which appeared some time ago in one of the Bengal Papers, is certainly very interesting, so far as it describes an animal with a "Frontal Horn," a discovery perhaps novel with respect to Thibet, though the existence of Front-unicorns in Asia is noticed by many writers*—but those who suppose that the Unicorn is a species sui generis, labour I imagine under as great a mistake as those who have considered that the Rhinoceros is one and the same animal.—They are different species of the same genus—according to the classification of the best authors on Zoology.

The learned Bochart mentions, (cap. 943)—the several names by which this one-horned quadruped is called in different countries; "Græcis Μονοκέρας, Latinis Unicorn, Germanis Emhorn, Gallis La Licorne, Italis Licorno aut Alicorno, Arabibus, Persis, Tartaris, Indis Carcaddan vel Carcandan.—The term Μονοκέρας, writes the Leipsic Professor Cyprianus, includes those animals "quæ unum Cornu gerunt; est nomen loquendi receptum, Unicornes feras nominat, quo Cornu in fronte unicorns habent."—Pers. 1. Cap. xi.

To instance this remark, I add here the undermentioned authorities that speak of different animals that have only a single horn in their foreheads; apud primos I begin with Strabo, who describes the "Equus Unicornes in India, Cervinis Capitis, &c." lib. 15. fol. 719.—Noticed also by Nieremberg in his Natural History, and by Bartholin—then follow a train of authors that make mention of the Indian Asses, seu Onagros †

* Ctesius, Aristotle, Ælian, Philostratus, Solinus, Aleosius, Gesner, Thevet, Bontius, cum multis aliis quos jam præscribere longum est.

† The Oryx is not the Indian Ass of Aristotle, which the Major presumes it to be on a reference to his Encyclopædia, but is the African Wild Goat; it is not at all probable, that Aristotle who writes of both these creatures should be in error, but rather the Lexicographer.

equo pares magnitudine, albo corpore, capite purpureo, oculis cyaneis quibus in fronte unum cornu cubitale vel sesquicubitale, in medio nigrum, album infra, supra puniceum, quorum robur et peracitas summa, habitationes in locis desertis: (Aristotle, Ælian, Pliny, Poll. &c.). Next Pliny and Solinus describes the "Boars in India, solidis ungulis unicornes."—In Kitcher, China illustrata, is related an account of "Vaccas in China veloces, in fronte tereti et oblongo cornu instructas."—part iv, cap. 7, pag. 192.—and "Vartoman tells us in his Voyages of having seen in Ethiopia cattle of a chestnut colour with a horn projecting from the middle of their forehead above the length of a span."—2 book c. 15. Many details of modern writers might be added to the above, but enough has been said tho' I cannot forbear translating for the benefit of the English reader, a passage from Dapper, in Descriptiones Americæ, as the animal there spoken of, bears an exact resemblance to the Tsoo of Thibet.—"There are to be sometimes seen on the borders of Canada, animals that very much resemble a small horse, having cloven hoofs, a thick mane, a long and erect horn in the forehead, a tail like a Boar, black eyes, and a Hart's neck, and abide in the most desert places."—P. 145.

Wolfgangus Franzius, in his Historiâ Animalium, (an excellent and very elaborate German production), gives the following account of a similar beast, which he says is nearly the size of a horse, "et quidem reliquo corpore valde simile equo, habens barbam hircinam, caput cervi, cervicem jubaratam, pedes elephantis, caudam suis, unum cornu nigrum mediâ fronte duorum cubitorum magnitudinis."—De Monos. et Rhinos.—And Pliny's account of the Monoceros, to which Major Lutter has attended, is just like the above, which I shall excerpt as a finale:

"Asperima fera est Monoceros, reliquo corpore e quo similis, capite cervo, pelibus elephantis, cauda apro, mugitu gravi, uno cornu nigro mediâ fronte cubitorum duum eminente.—lib. 8. cap. 21.

I am at a loss to explain why the Unicorn was introduced as part of the armorial bearings of Great Britain, unless indeed it is meant to signify the strength of the Nation, as the Lion allusively represents the characteristic intrepidity of the people.

About the rectification of the supposed error, that the Rhinoceros is the Rheem of the Bible, I maintain that it requires much greater proof than this new discovery to controvert that opinion.—It is remarkable that the Hebrew word Rheem signifies an Unicorn as well as a Rhinoceros, and Reem denotes both; the former of these words is used for the Rhinoceros in the passage of Deuteronomy,* which Major Lutter has extracted, and which I shall here transcribe in support of the proposition advanced. The Septuagint renders it thus: Ηρωροκοκ ραυρσ ρα καλδς αυρσ, καὶ κέραρα μονοκέρας ρα κέραρα αυρσ. † Now if the noun Μονοκέρας, was intended to apply to some animal with only one horn, there would then have been no necessity for the insertion of ρα κέραρα (cornua) but the English version, to obviate a supposed contradiction, assumes the idiom of its own language, by converting Unicorn into the plural to counteract the seeming inconsistency of horns; thereby doing away the spirit of the original text.—Now I am of opinion that the man of God in blessing the favoured Son of the Patriarch, could not have selected a happier similitude than by comparing the sons of Joseph to the Bicorn Rhinoceros; for as the one horn is larger considerably than the other, in such like were to be their offspring, viz. "the ten thousands of Ephraim, and but the thousands of Manasseh."—I would not however be understood as arguing that wherever Rheem occurs it is to be translated Rhinoceros. Far otherwise; for when David says, in the 92nd Psalm, v. 10. "My horn shalt thou exalt like the horn of an Unicorn," (Rheem) it must evidently mean some other animal; for we all know that the horn of the Rhinoceros is upon its snout; de hinc nomen. ‡ Commentators disagree in the interpretation of this word, as greatly as they do as to what particular creatures are meant to be represented by the Leviathan and Behemoth. §—Bochart and Rosenmüller convert the Unicorn mentioned in Numbers 23, v. 22, into the Gazelle or Roebuck.—Street renders the Unicorn spoken of in Psalm 22, v. 21, to mean Buffaloes, and Scott interprets the Rheem mentioned in Job 39, 9. as the wild Bull.—Hence may be inferred an unfavourable conclusion, that the Rheem of the Scriptures is in some places to be translated Rhinoceros, and that under the head of Unicorn may be classed a diversity of Quadrupeds, instead of bestowing that appellation to an unique description of animal.

9th December, 1821.

* C. 33—verse 17.

† His glory (is like) the firstling of his bullock, and his horns (are like) the horns of Unicorns.—DEUTER. XXXIII. 17.

‡ There are two species of this Quadruped, one with single and the other with a double horn.

§ Naricornis aut Nacornu.

Bengally Newspaper.

We have taken occasion to enumerate the heads of the subjects treated of in the *MOON OF INTELLIGENCE*, from the first Number up to the last, that has issued from the Press. The continued absence of News from Europe, enables us to take a retrospective review of its contents, somewhat more in detail; and as it will be satisfactory to many to see the general utility of the remarks and discussions which it contains, we hope no apology will be necessary for our occupying a few columns with this subject occasionally, so that such of our Readers as may not see the Paper itself may at least have a tolerably accurate Summary of its labours.

FROM THE MOON OF INTELLIGENCE.

Want of Seminaries.—From the time that this country has been in the possession of the Honourable Company, they have done every thing in their power, that could tend to the welfare of their humble subjects. From this I am led to suppose that the following subject needs, for its redress, but to reach their ears. The Free School has been instituted for the Country-born orphans, wherein they are gratuitously fed, clothed, and educated. The Mudrusa has been established for the poor Moosulmans, where they continue for years together receiving, every month, some 15 and others 8 Rupees for their food, and clothing. After they have been well instructed in the Persian and Arabic languages, they are appointed either Deewans to Collectors, or to some such situations. The Hindoo Brahmuns or other orders of people, have no such Schools where they may be fed, clothed, and educated for a length of time; for the poor in the country, as also those in the town, have not the means to enable them to defray the expences attending such an education of their children; who, consequently, remain ignorant, and become mere Copyists. They then write a few lines such as these: "Being informed that you are in want of an assistant into your office, &c." as a specimen of their hand writing, and run about in the streets begging for employments, both in public and private offices, just like those who cry out in the streets to know whether any one has happened to drop any thing into the wells, that they may go and get it out for a pie or two. And again those Brahmuns who stand as candidates, repeat one or two blessings which have not even the virtue of *BLESSING* in them. But those who do not know even how to write, are induced to commit horrible crimes in order to satisfy the calls of nature.—If the merciful Rulers of this country should be graciously pleased to take the subject into their serious consideration, and establish a Seminary of the nature above mentioned, the poor of this country would be so much obliged to them that their feelings of gratitude would be inexpressible.

Spiritual Teacher.—The late Brujmohun Gosshomy of Gurronhuttoh in Calcutta, dying, left his son Pronkisson Gosshomy to pay the sum of twenty thousand rupees with its interest, to a person of whom he had, a little before his death, borrowed the above mentioned sum upon the pledge of his dwelling house. This was a heavy task for him, as his father had not bequeathed to him any goods or landed property which might amount to a greater value than the house itself. The difficulties under which he laboured from being assailed by his Creditor, excited the compassion of Kisory Mohun Bysack, the son of Loll Chund Bysack, who paid the above sum with interest to its owner, from whom he took back the bond, lease, and pottah of his Spiritual teacher, and laid them at his feet, prostrating himself before him. The joy that the Gooroo felt upon this occasion can be conceived but not described. Another instance of a more exalted nature is to be traced in the life of Obhoy Charun Miter, who had given away fifty thousand rupees to his Spiritual Teacher, in order that he might remain satisfied. Both these persons have made themselves famous for their noble turn of mind.

Hereditary Property.—In the Doybhog and other Shastras, a youth of 15 years and 9 months is entitled to the succession of hereditary property. In pursuance of this law, at present, when a father dies, his son, when he arrives at this fixed age, takes from his father's attorney his whole property, and becomes the sole master of it. The boys of this country being, as it were, naturally inclined to laziness, feel indisposed to study, and consequently cannot expect to become learned afterwards. If you add to this the death of their father, and of their being the sole managers of their property, they necessarily look upon learning with indifference. They are then led by the advice of some wretches, who again are guided only by self-interest, and induced by them to commit a great many foolish and vicious actions which tend soon to empty their stores and at last oblige them to beg from door to door for the maintenance of their families. Therefore, for the good of the youths of this country, I most respectfully beg that the wise and rich Natives would consult among themselves, to present a petition to the merciful Rulers of this land not to allow a youth before he has arrived at the age of twenty two to become master of his property, which would greatly tend to his happiness.

Treatment of the Learned.—It is impossible to describe how much the feelings of the learned have been hurt from their not being treated every where with a due respect. A poor Brahmin having travelled into different countries wherever knowledge was to be bought, and undergone a great many fatigues returned home laden with a knowledge of the Nayan, Shonkh, Pottunjul, Ullankor, Byakorun, Pooron, Meemongsa, and several other Shastras. He afterwards married by the consent of his parents, and when father of two or three children, he left home for the acquisition of riches, and came to Calcutta, a city famous for its wealth and magnificence. Observing the splendour of the city in several respects; for instance, chariots, buggies, horses, palanquins with armed men before them; gardens beautifully laid out, &c. he was led to believe that it was in this place that learning and wealth displayed themselves in all their magnificence. Therefore this man deprived himself of his rest at night, and having extracted something out of some Shastras, the next morning, after his bathing and other daily ceremonies, he appeared before the gate of a magnificent building; but upon endeavoring to enter it the door-keeper, who was a Moosulman, cried out, "Too kown hy, bhace, begor hookoom sai konha jata hy?" These words stooped for a while the mouth of the learned man, who, after many reflections, thought that he was not clever enough as yet to understand this eloquent discourse of the door-keeper, and could not conceive how high his master's style and learning must be. A little after he timidly made up to the door-keeper again, and in a low voice desired him to repeat that excellent speech which he never heard before. Upon this the door-keeper was ready to insult him, when a good and wise man who was passing by seeing the simplicity of this country Brahmin, came up to him, and being made acquainted with all the particulars, informed him of the obstructions attending admittance into a rich person's house. After all this the poor Brahmin having breathed a sigh repaired to the house of a Boishunb* of moderate fortune; and a few days after, when all that he brought from his own house was spent, he was obliged to beg a pie or two from those persons who had no door-keepers. At last some compassionate person with whom he shortly after became acquainted, granted him a spot of ground in his own house, and appointed him to read to him the Pooron, every day. Many persons who had been present to hear him upon such occasions observed his skill and were very much satisfied with his pleasing voice. They shortly after established a college, wherein he was appointed the head teacher; and from his gratuitously feeding, clothing, and educating one or two pupils, he soon grew famous, and began to be invited to rich people's houses. Upon the death of some wealthy person, he was present at his funeral rites, and seeing the grand assembly convened on the occasion, the immense number of valuable things intended for gifts, donations, and the fine dresses of old learned persons like himself, he could not help reflecting with regret why he had not come to this man, now dead, while living, whereby he might have become a rich man himself. But when he, having received some gift, was coming out, seeing the door-keeper, it put him in mind of his former distressing adventure and he said to himself, that he did not know before, that there was so much difference between a man while living, and when he is dead.

Burning dead bodies.—The city of Calcutta being very populous, about sixty or seventy Hindoos are dying every day. After they are dead, their relations take their corpses to Cossy Miter's Ghant, (the only one in this town,) where they burn them and perform other funeral rites. This Ghant is about 15 cubits broad and 40 long, within which space 3 or at most 4 piles of wood only can be heaped. Therefore the inconvenience that is experienced in burning the dead bodies of the Hindoos, will appear from the following description. When any person of a moderate fortune, living at Jaun Bazar, and usually going about in a palanquin, has lost some of his relations, he experiences great difficulty in walking so far, in order to bring the body to Cossy Miter's Ghant at Bagbazar. Again, when he has reached the Ghant, he finds 3 or 4 piles already burning, while 5 or 7 others are ready to be burnt: some brought in the morning, others at noon, and this, that is just coming from Jaun Bazar, at about four in the evening. When those 3 or 4 have been burnt away, those that were brought in the morning begin to be burnt about sun-set and are completed between ten and eleven at night. At this time the water being raised, or in other words, the flowing tide coming in, prevents those corpses which had been brought at noon from being burnt; and they that had brought them, necessarily are obliged to wait the return of the ebb tide till six in the morning, when they begin their task and leave those who have come from Jaun Bazar to burn their corpse about the noon, which they cannot finish before evening. This is the manner in which the Hindoo corpses are burnt. This is a very bad practice, and casts a great deal of trouble. First, as it is inconsistent with the general opinion and also the Shasters to stale the corpse; second, as our feelings are inexpressibly hurt to wait at the burning ground with that object in our bosom for whose loss we lament; third, as those persons who take the dead body to

* A sect of Hindoos.

the Ghant have been obliged, before the death of the patient, to attend upon him and keep up whole nights without any food to themselves, and are now again obliged to do the same on the river Ganges; and fourth, as until these persons return home no one there is allowed to eat any thing, but all must lie down lamenting. We therefore sincerely wish, that either a very wide Ghant, where 25 or 30 dead bodies may be burned, or 3 or 4 more of the present kind be made; so that the corpses immediately upon being taken to the Ghant, be burned without any opposition or inconvenience. I presume that when this circumstance is publicly known, the merciful Rulers of this land, who are doing every thing to make their subjects happy, will adopt some such measures, as may tend to the abolition of this evil practice. They have granted extensive pieces of ground to the Moosulmans, Armenians, Portuguese, and many other nations for burying their dead, and they are more and more adding to those pieces of ground, for another corpse cannot be buried in the same place where one has already been interred. But such is not the case among the Hindoos; for they require only different piles of wood to burn their dead bodies, but not spots of ground. From this we presume to hope, that the Hindoos will be able to meet with success from their generous and wise Rulers.

Address.—We, the humble subjects of the province of Bengal, offer up heartfelt praise to the Governor General: as what is said, that "it is thro' the virtuous actions of the Ruler of a country that it enjoys happiness," has been witnessed this year by every one. All the lands of this country affording abundant crops of excellent grain and almost every article of food becoming cheap, people have been cheerfully attending their respective duties and spending their time contentedly, and the poor were happy to find rice and other things growing cheaper. But all this happiness is embittered by one very sad reflection, a fear lest the Europeans should buy up the Bengal rice and send it to some distant country, as they had done in several by-past years. Therefore the most constant wish of the British-Indian subjects is, that while the wise and merciful Governor (who has done every thing for their good) remains here, he would prevent the exportation of an immoderate quantity of rice from this country, by which he would conduce very much to the comfort and happiness of his subjects.

Medical Advice.—The people of this country have been relieved from a variety of distresses since it has been in the possession of the English nation; but one of a greater weight than all those troubles still remains to be removed; and if the following be kindly inserted in your Papers, we doubt not but it will be attended with beneficial effects, as soon as it reaches the ears of the wise and gracious Rulers of this land. The people of this country have a great many causes for being sickly, and among those the principal one is, that they eat whatever and whenever they like. After all this, it is very surprising that they do not oftener get sick, and when so, that they are cured; since they have neither any proper medicines nor any skilful physicians. Therefore it is sincerely wished that some requisite measures be adopted for the redress of this evil. Seeing the proper medical treatment and the skill of the European physicians, we could wish that our patients were treated by them, that they might be sooner and better restored to health. These doctors attend to rich families, but the poor cannot afford to send for them; and if any of them were to do so, through a fear of losing his life, he would after being speedily recovered by the proper treatment of the doctor, find himself again in great pain to see his bill, and begin to call upon death; since the ten rupees which he earned every month would not be sufficient even to maintain his family and to pay the tax: how then could he give five hundred rupees to the doctor which his bill might amount to? We can by no means blame the physician; for by attending this man for about a month and giving proper medicines to him it has cost him a great deal. Therefore, as the poor women and children of the Hindoos cannot with propriety resort to the Native Hospital, we earnestly beg that some requisite measures be adopted to relieve them from the many great distresses which they now experience from want of proper medical advice and treatment.

On the Natives studying Medicine.—It has been said in the last Number that when the people of this country fall sick they have very little reason to expect recovery, from having no skilful physicians. This is indeed true; and the populace have generally not the means of calling in a European Doctor, and if any one were to do so, he would afterwards find himself unable to pay the expenses attending it. The writer has therefore solicited the Government to adopt some measures whereby the poor might avail themselves of the medical treatment of European Doctors. In this he may be successful; however, let me express the wish of my heart. Were the Hindoo physicians to instruct their children in the knowledge of their own medical Shastars first; and then place them as practitioners under the superintendence of European physicians, it would prove infinitely advantageous to the Natives of this country.—In the first place, by a person by being acquainted with the English and Bengalee mode of treating diseases, he would be enabled to judge which was best; and could with greater certainty discover the ex-

act nature of diseases, and administer proper medicines or recommend proper regimen;—Secondly, by going to all places, and attending to poor as well as rich families, and to persons of every age and sex he could render service to all;—Thirdly, he could without the least difficulty go to such places as were inaccessible to European Doctors; and, lastly, this kind of medical knowledge and the mode of treatment by passing from hand to hand, would be at length spread over the whole country.

The manners of Coolin Brahmins.—A respectable family of a certain village had a very beautiful daughter, who, from her very infancy, lived at her maternal Uncle's. When she became marriageable, her father came to the place, and said to her Uncle. "O, Sir, we are the sons of Coolin, and as such, we never marry our children at our own expense but take our father-in-law's riches for ours: with this consideration, do as you think proper." Having spoken these words, he repaired to his own house. This man (his brother-in-law) being in intimate friendship with the Mandole of the place (for which he was very much respected by the villagers) asked his advice on the occasion. The Mandole said, "She is no longer a child now, but has attained the age of puberty; therefore marry her as soon as you can, but beware of much expense." Afterwards the uncle finding that he could not bestow her upon a young man of reputed family without incurring a great expense, an affair with which he knew the father of the bride would have no concern, (as he had plainly intimated before) he pitched upon an old and decrepid fellow; and to him her compassionate father gave her away with some few articles of dowry. This new son-in-law, having remained for a day or two at the house of his wife's maternal Uncle, thought proper to go and dwell on the bank of the river Ganges, as his end was approaching; and he did not long remain there, for after twenty-nine days he breathed his last. This news very much distressed the minds of his new relations: they allowed the new married girl to remain in ignorance of this sad circumstance, and to conduct herself as if she had not become a widow; and about a year after informed her, that her husband had run away. As she now despaired of seeing her husband again she began to pant after a lover; and shortly after she went to her father's house; and seeing there a number of pilgrims going to bathe in the Ganges, she also, by her parents' consent, followed them. Instead of returning home, she remained concealed within the house of a Boistunby; and the Thannadar of this place being acquainted with all the particulars, sent for the woman, and having reproved her for her present conduct, desired her to go back to her family. But it was in vain; for she returned to the house of the same Boistunby. At last a crafty Brahmin contrived to marry her to another Brahmin of high cast on receiving 300 Rs. from the latter. The day after, all these circumstances being discovered, her new husband's relations have at last resolved to divorce her: but to this the girl has not as yet agreed. The names and residence of the persons need not be mentioned; as the public may easily know them. The sequel will afterwards be published. The sole reason for publishing this now, is to put parents on their guard how they dispose of their female offspring in marriage. In the present case the parents seem to possess very hard hearts in having given away a perfect beauty to age and ugliness on the point of death; the consequence of which has been that the daughter has acted as above described.

The useless profusion and illiberal parsimony of the Natives.—Among the inhabitants of the Coomorika Khund (one of the nine divisions of India) the Brahmin, Khettry, Boishlya and Soodru being devoid of learning, have now begun to act contrary to one another's manners, customs, laws and professions. All this cannot properly be attributed to poverty, since the poor as well as the rich act thus. The latter, instead of encouraging the arts and sciences, and spending their riches in other laudable pursuits, have been encouraging all sorts of vices, and spending their money foolishly; and though they are often experiencing the evil consequences of their folly, yet they do not take the least trouble to reform themselves, as it is their duty to do.

Immoral tendency of certain Bengalee Plays.—Many of the rich of this country have spent their money profusely with great pleasure, on purpose to publish the comedies of Biddya Soonder, and Kotee Comdeb, and to form several Shokerdalls,* and are still assisting them in every possible manner; but were they to give themselves the trouble to reflect, they would discover their folly; far from being advantageous to the boys and young men whom they engage as actors in those loose plays, it exposes their folly to public inspection. If they, in their youth, in which season the propensity of their mind is to play and amuse themselves, were kept under restraint by their elders, they might be less subject to such errors; but if such a salutary check over them be neglected, they will necessarily follow the natural bent of their inclination.

* A number of men of pleasure, or rather rakes, form a party to sing and dance at the houses of certain persons, without any recompense for their trouble.

The Switzer's Horn.

Song of the Swiss before the Battle of Marignan, between the Army of the Cantons and that of Francis I. in Sept. 1515.

Let him come on! though at his back
His iron-clad Gendarmerie
And all his plumed Chivalry
Are rushing like the thunder rack;
We'll stand as our forefathers stood
When Morat's streams ran dark with blood;
And Charles the Bold, who on that morn
Spurr'd his hot Courser to the strife,
Was forced ere night to spur for life
At the "Blast of the Switzer's Horn."

2.

Let him come on! though France's best
All harness'd in their jewell'd mail,
Rally around her banners pale,
Or round their Monarch's lillied crest;
Perchance we untamed Mountaineers
Have lower plumes, and rougher spears,
Which you gay knights may hold in scorn!
But they may learn, ere close of day,
How Freeman war's bold game can play
To the "Blast of the Switzer's Horn,"

3.

Let him come on! though proud Allmayne
Sends her schwart mousquetaires,* who own
No law—no faith—but war's alone,
To swell her rival's battle train;
The German Eagle hath, ere now,
Felt the keen bolt of mountain bow;—
And broken beak, and plumage torn,—
In bright Morgarten's hallowed dell,
Should teach her to remember well
The "Blast of the Switzer's Horn."

4.

Let him come on! we'll hide the shock
With mountain-hearts, free, true, and staunch;
And break it, as the avalanche
Is broken by our native rock:
We'll meet it, as the winter's tide
Is met upon the Jung-frau's side
By giant cliffs—and quick as corn
Is reap'd upon Thun's golden banks—
Our swords shall thin those gaudy ranks
To the "Blast of the Switzer's Horn."

Patna, Jan. 8, 1823.

BERNARD WYCLIFFE.

* The black German Bands, to whom Voltaire principally attributes the hard won victory of Marignan.

Shipping Arrivals.

CALCUTTA.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Feb. 25	Caroline	British	E. Warguard	Chittagong	Feb. 18
25	Mew	British	J. A. D'Coil	Chittagong	Feb. 20
25	Mocha Churbra	Burma	Nacoda	Mergu	Feb. 1

Passengers.

In the List of Passengers by the PALMIRA, inserted in the JOURNAL of yesterday, the names of Mrs. Blunt, and — Blunt, Esq. H. C. C. S. should and have been included.

Births.

On the 25th instant, the Lady of Captain C. H. BEAN, of a Son.
On the 18th instant, Mrs. STOCKER, Wife of Mr. WILLIAM STOCKER, Builder and Surveyor, of a Daughter.

Printed at the Columbian Press, in Garrison's Buildings, near the Bankhall and the Exchange.

Government Gazette Extraordinary.

FORT WILLIAM, FEBRUARY 25, 1823.

The Most Noble the Governor General having been pleased to nominate W. B. BAYLEY, Esq. one of the Senior Merchants in the Service of the Honorable the United Company of Merchants of England (until the pleasure of the Honorable the Court of Directors shall be known) to supply the vacancy in the Council of Fort William, occasioned by the departure of the Hon'ble JAMES STUART, Esq. for Europe, the Most Noble the Governor General in Council, agreeably to the Provisions contained in the 33 Geo. III. C. 52, has called the said W. B. BAYLEY, Esq. to take his seat in Council accordingly, and the said W. B. BAYLEY, Esq. has in obedience thereto this day taken the Oaths and his Seat in the Council of Fort William, under the usual Salute from the Ramparts of the Fort.

By Order of the Most Noble the Governor General in Council,
C. LUSHINGTON, Acting Chief Sec. to Govt.

APPOINTMENTS.—FEBRUARY, 25, 1823.

Mr. C. LUSHINGTON, to officiate as Chief Secretary to the Government.
Mr. H. T. PRINSEP, to officiate as Secretary to the Government in the Judicial Department.
Mr. H. CHASTENAY, to officiate as Secretary to the Government in the Persian Department.

Insult to Royalty.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

Although, Sir, I am not either a Whig, a Radical, or a moderate Reformer, yet as I am an honest old-fashioned Tory, I cannot think of the disrespect the corpse of our late Queen met with from the oligarchical faction, without feelings of disgust and indignation; reverencing as I do, the descendants of Monarchs. The wretch, who dares to insult them, appears to me guilty of a crime revolting as sacrilege itself. The obloquy with which the early French Jacobins, assailed the character of Marie Antoinette, filled me with horror: I execrated her base traducers as the most wicked of men. With these opinions, I cannot but regret any event that tends to degrade Royalty in the public esteem. You may imagine, then, the light in which I viewed a late bill of Pains and Penalties; but as the wisdom of our Hereditary Nobility rejected that obnoxious measure, I will not dwell upon it: let the past sink into oblivion. But I cannot also allow the insults, the last remains of deceased Majesty received from the satellites of Administration, to pass by me like a summer cloud unnoticed. Yet I wish, sincere'y do I wish, that the day could be forgotten which witnessed the niece of George the Third, dragged over the dead and dying citizens of London; I wish that the day could be forgotten, which witnessed the daughter of Brunswick's gallant Chieftain, denied a funeral becoming her noble birth, and exalted station: "but this is impossible, and cannot be." It is marked upon the memories of men as a dark and fearful time, and will be thought of, when the Martyrdom of King Charles or the misfortunes of Marie Antoinette recur to the recollection. They were pursued by hatred and malevolence even unto death; but Queen Caroline of England was insulted when in her last and narrow home. Well might Burke, the eloquent and high-minded, lament the decay of chivalric spirit and knightly worth: they are indeed gone. Yet, how it could be otherwise? Our ancestors, misled by bad and self-interested men, drove their King from his throne, and seated a stranger upon the chair of Edward. Since then, our ancient veneration for Royalty has declined. The Sovereign and the People have become alike discontented. The Monarch governed by a powerful faction, is not allowed to listen to the complaints of his Subjects; and his Ministers, as they are called, are more anxious to consolidate their own power, than to redress popular grievances. I hope, Sir, that your impartiality will find room in some corner of the CALCUTTA JOURNAL for this Letter of

Your obedient Servant,

Nagpore, Feb. 1823.

A HIGH-CHURCH-AND-TORY-MAN.

Notice of a Shipwreck.

Extract of a Letter from the Ship PHILIPPA, dated 26th January, 1823, from Aleppo, and received in Calcutta yesterday.

"We experienced a severe gale of wind in Latitude 12° N. on the 11th, 12th, and 13th instant. On the 14th we passed pieces of Wreck of masts, and several dead bodies: some Europeans amongst them, who, I suppose, must have suffered in the same gale."

